

The Dedmon Connection

October - December 2003 - Number 20

(Dedmon, Dedman, Deadman, Deadmon, Dedmond, Dedmond, etc.)

Fourth Quarterly Issue- 2003



Leroy Dedmon

This issue will bring to a close the year 2003. I have done quite well by my standards. I intended to publish four issues this year, but will settle with three. Never mind that we are a “little” late with this one. Maybe 2004 will be better.

MOVING ON

If my memory serves me correctly it was Hank Snow who made popular the “fifties” (or earlier), song, Moving On..... Also, there was a more comical version, I think, by Homer and Jethro.... one of the lines spoke of a smart guy from the city who picked up a stripped kitty.... Hopefully, I will be able to adjust a little better than that as we have now moved to the “country”

I am now living about a mile from where I was born... They say that the “nut” falls near the root of the tree. No comment please.... We are presently living in the house with mom, who will be ‘92 on January 8, 2004. I am so amazed at her memory of family members who have long gone to their “reward”... She has been very helpful to me from the beginning of my genealogy research. The house in which we live is built around the little log house built by my great grandfather, John Marion Dickson. He built the “one room” log house with a “lean-to” kitchen prior to 1900 for his tenants. When my grandparents (George Dickson and Pearl Templeton) married in 1911 they moved into the house. My mom was born in this house in 1912. When my mom was three years old her father added a room, which you can see in the above picture. It was not built of logs, but rather “rough” lumber from the saw mill. We think he also built the front porch and a small back porch about the same time. After the death of my grandfather in 1918, grandmother moved to nearby “Rabbit” Valley along with mom and her sister Edna. They moved back to the house in 1923 for a short period of time.



THE ORIGINAL LOG HOUSE IS OVER 100 YRS OLD
(PICTURE PAINTED BY ALMA RUTH DEDMON SMITH)



YOU CAN SEE THE ORIGINAL LOG HOUSE. THE AREA ON THE BACK (TO THE LEFT) EXTENDS ACROSS THE BACK OF THE HOUSE. THERE IS A BEDROOM ON EACH END WITH THE KITCHEN IN THE MIDDLE. THE FRONT PORCH WAS ADDED TO THE FRONT OF THE LOG HOUSE, BUT IS NOT VISIBLE DUE TO THE TREES.

I was born about a mile from this house and remember as a boy my cousins (the Gilberts) living in the house. By then we had moved closer to Chattanooga for dad to not have so far to drive every day. I spent most of my summers as a teen-ager with my cousins. When dad retired in the ‘60s, mom and dad moved back to the house and began the additions that are still present today. There is a living room and screened porch on the front and two bedrooms, a kitchen and bath across the back of the house plus two bedrooms in the attic. The “rustic” look has been retained. This picture will give you an idea of how it looks today. You can still see the area where the log room is, which now is just the den. Also, you can see the front roof line and the back area that is built completely across the house. The trees make it almost impossible to get a good view of the house.



Send me your old stories or articles relating to the Dedmon Family. Come on!!! Dig into that old shoe box in the closet and bring out the goodies!!!!

THANKS FOR YOUR TIME

The following article was sent to me by my cousin Harrison Dedmond. It was such a strong reminder of how important our time really is, that I decided to use it here.. Thanks Harrison.. (had@sierratel.com)

It had been some time since Jack had seen the old man next door. College, girls, career, and life itself got in the way. In fact, Jack moved clear across the country in pursuit of his dreams. There, in the rush of his busy life, Jack had little time to think about the past and often no time to spend with his wife and son. He was working on his future, and nothing could stop him. Over the phone, his mother told him, "Mr. Belser died last night. The funeral is Wednesday." Memories flashed through his mind like an old newsreel as he sat quietly remembering his childhood days..... "Jack, did you hear me?"

"Oh, sorry, Mom. Yes, I heard you. It's been so long since I thought of him. I'm sorry, but I honestly thought he died years ago," Jack said. "Well, he didn't forget you. Every time I saw him he'd ask how you were doing. He'd reminisce about the many days you spent over 'his side of the fence' as he put it," Mom told him. "I loved that old house he lived in," Jack said. "You know, Jack, after your father died, Mr. Belser stepped in to make sure you had a man's influence in your life," she said. "He's the one who taught me carpentry," he said. "I wouldn't be in this business if it weren't for him. He spent a lot of time teaching me things he thought were important... Mom, I'll be there for the funeral," Jack said.

As busy as he was, he kept his word. Jack caught the next flight to his hometown. Mr. Belser's funeral was small and uneventful. He had no children of his own, and most of his relatives had passed away. The night before he had to return home, Jack and his Mom stopped by to see the old house next door one more time. Standing in the doorway, Jack paused for a moment. It was like crossing over into another dimension, a leap through space and time.

The house was exactly as he remembered. Every step held memories. Every picture, every piece of furniture.... Jack stopped suddenly. "What's wrong, Jack?" his Mom asked. "The box is gone," he said. "What box?" Mom asked "There was a small gold box that he kept locked on top of his desk. I must have asked him a thousand times what was inside. All he'd ever tell me was 'the thing I value most,'" Jack said. It was gone. Everything about the house was exactly how Jack remembered it, except for the box He figured someone from the Belser family had taken it. "Now I'll never know what was so valuable to him," Jack said. "I better get some sleep. I have an early flight home, Mom."

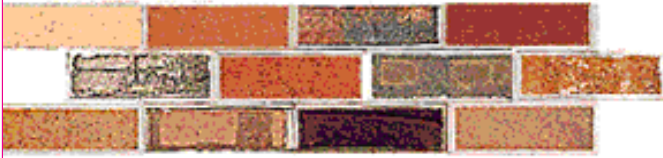
It had been about two weeks since Mr. Belser died. Returning home from work one day Jack discovered a note in his mailbox. "Signature required on a package. No one at home. Please stop by the main post office within the next three days," the note read. Early the next day Jack retrieved the package. The small box was old and looked like it had been mailed a hundred years ago. The handwriting was difficult to read, but the return address caught his attention. "Mr. Harold Belser" it read.

Jack took the box out to his car and ripped open the package. There inside was the gold box and an envelope. Jack's hands shook as he read the note inside. "Upon my death, please forward this box and its contents to Jack Bennett. It's the thing I valued most in my life." A small key was taped to the letter. His heart racing, as tears filling his eyes, Jack carefully unlocked the box. There inside he found a beautiful gold pocket watch. Running his fingers slowly over the finely etched casing, he unlatched the cover. Inside he found these words engraved: "Jack, Thanks for your time! -Harold Belser." "The thing he valued most...was...my time."

Jack held the watch for a few minutes, then called his office and cleared his appointments for the next two days. "Why?" Janet, his assistant asked. "I need some time to spend with my son," he said. "Oh, by the way, Janet... thanks for your time!"

"Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take but by the moments that take our breath away,"

THE BRICK WALL



I try to enlist all the researchers of the Deadman name in helping us connect all the branches to the tree. I have discovered at least five major Deadman branches that we have not been able to connect. If you have information on any of the Deadman family branches, please submit.

From: Leslie Alarcon
To: minister@mindspring.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 31, 2003 10:36 PM
Subject: Seneca Dedmon

Hello, my name is Leslie. My great great grandfather was Claiborne Foster Wood who was married to Mary Dedmon. Mary was born on 1834 in Missouri. Her father was Seneca Dedmon, born in Hall Co., Georgia in 1799. Seneca was married to Obedience Pettypool. Mary's son, Henry Dallas, was my great grandfather and his son Caliborne Foster was my grandfather. I saw Seneca's name on your website, but don't know anything about his parents or where the Dedmons came from. I know you stated you are having trouble making a connection to Seneca, but if you have any other info. I would love to know more about him. Thanks for any help you can give me. Leslie710@adelphia.net

Here is an email Leslie sent to Dan Pierce

From: Leslie Alarcon
To: tworunga@hotmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 07, 2004 9:04 PM
Subject: Seneca Dedmon or Dedman

I'm trying to get some info on my gggrandfather, Seneca Dedmon. He was born on Oct. 25, 1799 in Hall County and later moved to Wright Co. Missouri. He married Obedience "Bedia" Pettypool on Feb. 9, 1826 in Hall County. Nobody seems to be able to find out anything about his parents and where they came from. Two of his children were born in Georgia, Isaac D. Dedmon in 1826 and Margaret P. Dedmon in 1827. Thanks for any help you can give me. Leslie710@adelphia.net

Here is Dan's reply to Leslie:

From: tworunga@hotmail.com
To: Leslie Alarcon
Sent: Friday, January 09, 2004 12:39 PM
Subject: Re: Seneca Dedmon or Dedman

Leslie, Hall County was not created until 1818, so Seneca could not have been born there.

Sinaca Deadman is shown on the index of the 1830 census living in Habersham County. William Dedman is living in Rabun County in 1830. These are the only two Dedman's listed on the 1830 index for Georgia.

If you back up to 1820, there are no Dedman's listed on the index in Georgia. There are several Deadmon households listed in North Carolina:

William, Thomas and Elizabeth in Rowan County
 Mark, Thomas and William in Rutherford County
 Thomas in Orange County

In 1840, there is an Esther M. Deadman in Lumpkin Co., GA, and a John L. Dedmon in Walker Co., GA. They are the only two Deadmon families listed on the 1840 index for Georgia. Can't find Seneca anywhere in the U.S. If Esther is his mother, he could be living with her.

In 1850, Seneca Dedman is living in Carroll County, AR, 50 yr. old, born in Georgia. Wife Bedy is 40, born in NC. They have 2 children born in GA, one in TN, 5 in MO and 2 in AR. Hope this gives you some clues,

Dan Pierce
 Franklin Hills, Calif.



Seneca remains a mystery to all the Deadman (Dedmon) family researchers. See THE DEDMON CONNECTION (Volume 9) for additional information on Seneca. This picture was submitted by Beth Dedmon Barker, a descendent of Seneca. As indicated by Dan's letter, Seneca was in Georgia very early. In fact, I suppose he is the first to show in Georgia census. My plans are to visit Hall County and see if I can "dig" up more info. Thanks to Leslie and Dan for some additional info.....Leroy



A FRIEND

From: "Gary Deadmond"

To: "Floyd Dedmon"

Floyd-Dedmon@Juno.Com

Subj: poem

Around the corner I have a friend,
 In this great city that has no end,
 Yet the days go by and weeks rush on,
 And before I know it, a year is gone.
 And I never see my old friends face,
 For life is a swift and terrible race,
 He knows I like him just as well,
 As in the days when I rang his bell.
 And he rang mine but we were younger then,
 and now we are busy, tired men.
 Tired of playing a foolish game,
 Tired of trying to make a name.
 "Tomorrow" I say! "I will call on Jim
 Just to show that I'm thinking of him."
 But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes,
 And distance between us grows and grows.
 Around the corner, yet miles away,
 "Here's a telegram sir," "Jim died today."
 And that's what we get and deserve in the end.
 Around the corner, a vanished friend.
 Remember to always say what you mean.
 If you love someone, tell them.

Don't be afraid to express yourself. Reach out and tell someone what they mean to you. Because when you decide that it is the right time it might be too late. Seize the day. Never have regrets. And most importantly, stay close to your friends and family, for they have helped make you the person that you are today.

I received this poem from Gary via Floyd, so I wrote Gary and asked him if he actually wrote the poem and if I could publish it here.. he replied:

Leroy, good to hear from you. No I did not write that poem. It was sent to me by another friend. Author unknown. As far as I am concerned you may publish it. It sure has a lot of truth in it. It should be shared with all. Gary

My son is also named Gary, but of course our spelling is Dedmon.... Deadmond is one of the many ways you might find our surname. As far as i can tell the original was Deadman... At least until you get to Debnam and Debenham, then that's another story.....Leroy



From: Ron Deadmond
 [mailto:rdeadmond@mlode.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 31, 2003 1:59 PM
To: gldedmon@bellsouth.net
Subject: Hey Hey

Leroy

I thought you lived in So-Cal. how did you get a bellsouth e-mail add.

Back to the chase, how have you been doing on shaking the family bush?

I have found a contact in IN. that has a treasure trove of info. she has ran the tribe back to England, her grandmother and my grandfather were Sibs. Give me a shout when you have a chance.

Ron "D" (rdeadmond@mlode.com)

So. Cal sounds nice right now as we are experiencing some freezing weather here in Georgia.. However, I have never been to California. In fact, I have barely crossed the Mississippi River. While visiting in Memphis, Jane and I drove across the river to West Memphis and when brother Bill lived in Leland, MS, I was privileged to hold a meeting and drove on to Greenville while I was there and I think we crossed the river again. If not at least we drove to its east bank. Now to the north is a different story.. I have been all the way to Indianapolis, IN... Surely there is not much left to see north of there... Oh yes, I have been to DC. Is that farther north than Indianapolis???? Now you folks must understand, I am a true southern gentleman. I was almost grown, before I knew you could say the word "yankee" without a prefix.....Leroy

From the Mail Bag

(Continued from page 4)



Tim Dedmon
4706 Ridgecrest Rd
Hixson, TN 37343
423-875-3012
Fax 423-877-5484

12/6/2003

Leroy,

This is my line of the Dedmon family tree. There were two William Dedmon's born around 1869 and 1870 in North Georgia. William James Dedmon b. 7/20/1869 whose parents were William and Assenath White, and I just knew this was my connection since my William Dedmon went by JW Dedmon in many of his land Deeds in latter years. After a few years of research I found this William buried in the Patterson Strickland Cemetery, Franklin County, Alabama, he died on July 2, 1887 at seventeen years old.

The other William is my connection. In the 1870 Walker County, Georgia Census, William A is listed as being 9/12 being born in the month of August of 1870, with a brother John being two years old (John never appeared in another Census) their parents being Thomas Crawford Dedmon 23 years old and his wife Martha being 24. Thomas Crawford Dedmon b 9/20/1846 was the son of Mark L Dedmon b 1820 and Rebecca Macon b. 1821.

In the 1880 17th Civil District, Hamilton County, Tennessee Census Thomas Crawford Dedmon and Martha are listed with their children as William age 13, Gussie age 7, Nancy R age 6, and Mark age 3 being born in Tennessee, making Thomas Crawford the first Dedmon to migrate to Chattanooga from North Georgia. They had another son, Samuel b 1881. Thomas Crawford and Martha appear on a land Deed #143-296 in January of 1890 giving The Hamilton County Government the right of way to build Harrison Pike on their property. After the land deed Martha disappears, I can't find her last name, whether she died or they got divorced, I will not quit until I find her. Thomas Crawford Dedmon married his second wife Ellen Jones on August 28, 1891 in Chattanooga, Hamilton County, Tennessee.

In the 1900 5th District, Hamilton County, TN Census William J Dedmon is listed being born in August 1870 in Georgia and 29 years old, with both parents being born in Georgia. His wife is listed as Rebecca b 1867 age 33. I have found

William and Rebecca's marriage license, as being married on December 21, 1888 Chattanooga, TN. Their children listed are Goldie b 1889, Flossie b 1892, Thomas b 1894, Mark b 1896, and my grandfather Edward b 1900. William's first son is named Thomas Crawford Dedmon after his father, and his second son is named Mark Dedmon after his grandfather.

In the 1910 2nd Civil District, Hamilton County, TN Census William is listed as James W Dedmon age 39, wife Rebecca age 32, children Thomas age 15, Mark age 12, Edward age 10, and Mary age 5. For some reason he started going by JW Dedmon in his latter years, but it is the same William.

My William Dedmon b. August 12, 1870 was left behind or decided not to go when his family migrated to Arkansas and Oklahoma. William's grandfather Mark Dedmon b 1820 migrated most of his family to Waldron, Scott County, Arkansas after the Civil War. Williams father Thomas Crawford Dedmon and Ellen sold their property in Harrison, Tennessee Deed # 205-600 in 1906 and show up in the 1910 Heavener, Leflore County, Oklahoma Census with their family. William's younger brothers Mark Dedmon b 1877 and Samuel Dedmon b 1881 are also in the 1910 Heavener, Leflore County, Oklahoma Census living next door to each other with their families.



This is the only picture of my grand father and grand mother, Edward Denton Dedmon b. 3/31/1900 and Ollie Jane Taylor b 8/1/1906. This picture was taken around 1920 in Chattanooga, TN. Ed was a Pastor at the Daisy Church of God, in Soddy Daisy, TN for several years. Leroy I've got it right this time. Your Cuz... Tim Dedmon (tdedmon@netzero.com)

Editor's Note:

It was so good to finally put to rest exactly how Tim "fit in" the ole tree. I always knew he did, but was not sure how. I also appreciate his persistent search for truth. It goes to show how mistakes are made in genealogy. As I have stated many times, I am not a genealogist. In fact, I am not a good researcher. I developed this web site to help all of us in our search for grandpa..



From the Mail Bag

(Continued from page 6)

From: Marye Dedmon
[mailto:mdedmon@pasco.k12.fl.us]
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2003 11:01 AM

Merry Christmas Everyone! I hope you can open the attachment. Hopefully I'll get some cards out soon!

We'll be on vacation at home starting at about 11:00 today our time and will be back on Monday, Jan. 5. I can't believe it's 2004 already. So... I won't be able to read any e-mail for a while.

We wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful new year. Love, Bob and Marye

Editor's Note: It was so good to hear from Bob and Marye again. They have been great supporters of our work from the beginning... In fact Marye was the first to respond to my initial attempt to find information on the Dedmon family through the internet. See Volume 8, (Feb-March, 1999).... Their family has been well represented at both reunions we have hosted. She sent a nice page of pictures which are published on page seven of this newsletter.

Tuesday, November 25, 2003

Dear Leroy:

I signed the guestbook privately, but find that my first cousin, Marianne Ryan is mentioned in Newsletter 2. I will get some birth and death information and get back to you. I don't need to have the privacy, but want to put in correct information. In my search, I showed up as the mother of an unknown [to me] woman! Best regards, and thank you,
Charlotte

Charlotte Elizabeth Deadman Parker
25 Mohawk Trail
Pensacola, FL 32506
CParkerMO@aol.com

Good to hear from the Christopher Deadman line again... Marianne Ryan has done a lot of work on that part of the family. Looking forward to the updated information that Charlotte has. I guess we all have some unknowns in our family and when you find one you know, let me know...Leroy

From: Vanderbiltmom04@aol.com
[mailto:Vanderbiltmom04@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 10, 2003 7:30 AM
To: gldedmon@alltel.net
Subject: Re: dedmon

Hi Leroy -

I have not pulled all of this out in a long time, but, my Grandmother, Virginia, was the 3rd child of Marcus and Evelina. All of the children show up a a 1900 Census, except George. He must have moved out on his own by then. All of the children are as follows: William A. - George S. - Virginia G. Nell - Charles - Clyde - Clifford - Marie.

So, there are **lots** more Dedmons out there! There is **no** truth to the story about Marcus being killed while running away. He died in 1954 at the age of 76.

Someday I will get this all together on a Family Tree and will send it to you.

My Aunt, Ruth Marsh (daughter of Virginia) just passed away Aug. 17th in Woodstock, GA. She was the youngest and last of my Grandmother's children.

Merry Christmas and Happy Retirement!
Amelia Lehman

It was good to hear from Amelia again. I was sorry to learn of her Aunt Ruth's passing. She was my half second cousin and if that's not enough, I was living in Woodstock when she died. I never knew about it, nor did I know her. Her grandfather was my grandfathers half brother. The story Amelia referred to is the one Family tradition says that Mark was making moonshine whiskey and was caught by Revenue Officers. He asked if he could go tell his family bye before they took him to jail and while the Officers waited outside his wife told him to run. He went out the back door and as he jumped the fence the Officers shot him in the back and killed him. It talked to my mom about this and she said that was the story told in her day. She agrees with Amelia that it was not this Marcus.... Of all the Marks available it seems most likely that it was Mark Dedmon, brother to William D. and uncle to Marcus L. He died in 1864 at the age of 44... He was at the right place at the right time for the story to be true... Of course he was at the wrong place at the wrong time, if the story is true....



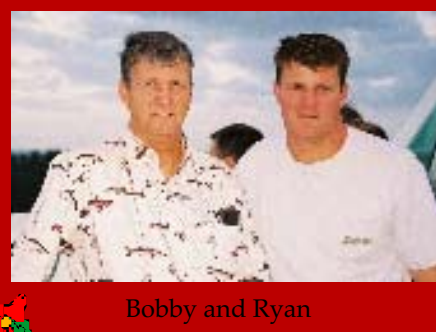
Emma Evelyn and Jacob Silas
Born 10/10/03 to Scott and Lara Dedmon



Scott, Jake, and Emma



Morgan, Marye, and Jake



Bobby and Ryan



*We wish you a very
Merry Christmas and
a wonderful new year!*



Lara, Emma, Scott, and Jake



Tricia, Morgan, Duke, & Luke



Bob and Marye Dedmon



Bobby and Emma



Jacob



Morgan



Emma



Bragging Rights



This is the great grandson of Chuck and Jackie Dedman. Drema and "Butch" Baker are the grandparents, Christina and Carlos Rivera are the parents. Jackie has been a great help to me in my research project. In fact, she is the one that encouraged me to publish THE DEDMON CONNECTION. Some of you "old timers" may remember her publication THE DEDMAN CONNECTION. It was a mail-out version. I have most of the copies and plan to put them on-line in the near future.

From: Pdc40P@aol.com
[mailto:Pdc40P@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, November 23, 2003 10:30 AM
To: gldedmon@alltel.net
Subject: Re: family newsletter



Hi Leroy

You are more than welcome to do what ever you wish with my e-mail. You must have received the first e-mail from Danny. I finally remembered sending it. It had me confused at first. but that's not to hard to do Thanks for the info. so far sending you a picture of me and my daughter Keri... Pam

Editor's Note:

This is from Pamela Dedmon Craig (see DEDMON CONNECTION Volume 19) I am more than willing to publish photos that are sent me... Also, some of you sent photos that were lost when my hard drive crashed... If you sent some that I never published, please resend.



Pictured here is one of our newest family members. Natalie Catherine Smith is being held by her great grandmother, Ruby Dickson Dedmon. Natalie is the son of Steve and Tonya Smith and the granddaughter of Ruth and Don Smith. Ruth is my sister and of course, Ruby is my mother.

From: Danny McBee
McBee49@aol.com
To: Leroy Dedmon
gladedmon@alltel.net
Subject:newsletter



Always a great job. I will try to write a few articles and send some information for the next Dedmon Connection. I am so glad to see our Dedmon[d] research continue. It seems like we have a lot more interested in Dedmon genealogy. Glad all is well. Here is a picture of myself and my grandson Davis Albert McBee.

Thanks Dan, I can truthfully say that no one has been more encouraging to me than Danny. He is always anxious to be of assistance and willing to share his research in a very unselfish manner. I hope to visit him in NC this summer.